

REMARKS

By this Amendment the specification has been amended to include topic headings, claim 20 has been amended to include the feature of claim 27 (now canceled), and claim 30 has been amended to include the feature of claim 37 (now canceled). Entry is requested.

A supplemental page 13 for this application containing an abstract of the disclosure is attached hereto.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 20-46 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either Harris et al. or Hammond et al.

The applicants assert that this rejection must be withdrawn.

Harris et al. disclose a filter bag 14 which includes a circumferentially-extending rim 30 with a radially outwardly-projecting portion 32 and a fluid permeable pouch 34, the rim 30 including a cylindrical portion 44 which fits tightly within the open end 38 of the pouch 34 and is bonded to the pouch by circumferentially space bonded areas 48. There is no disclosure that the radially outwardly-projection portion 32 of the rim 30, which is clearly annular, could be replaced by a plurality of (circumferentially spaced) supports.

Hammond et al. disclose a filter bag 34 which includes a hem 60 in which a ring member 62 is positioned. A retainer member 74 can help mount the filter bag in an opening 66 and a cup member 68 of a cell plate

12. Neither the ring member 62 nor the retainer member 74 includes a plurality of circumferentially spaced supports.

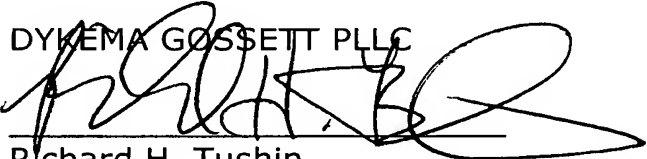
Thus, neither Harris et al. nor Hammond et al. disclose or suggest the applicants' claimed structure, which provides the advantage that deposited material will not gather as happens when the rim is annular (e.g., rim 32 in Harris et al.).

Favorable reevaluation is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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